



SEPP17.90

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	:	Niinisto et al.	)
Appl. No.	:	10/067,634	)
Filed	:	February 4, 2002	)
For	:	METHOD OF DEPOSITING RARE EARTH OXIDE THIN FILMS	)
Examiner	:	Alexander G. Ghyka	)
Group Art Unit	:	2812	)

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
**Mail Stop After Final**  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Notice of Allowability mailed on July 23, 2004. In discussing the Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner notes that the closest prior art does not disclose or suggest a metal source cyclopentadienyl compound selected from the group consisting of Sc, La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb and Lu in an atomic layer deposition process. Applicants note that not all of the claims include the feature mentioned by the Examiner. Allowed Claims 15-23, 25-27 and 29-38 each recite different combinations of features and elements. To the extent that there is any implication that the patentability of the claims rests on the recitation of a single feature, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's Statement. It is the combination of features that makes the claims patentable.

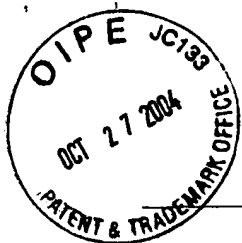
Appl. No. : 10/067,634  
Filed : February 4, 2002

Respectfully submitted,  
KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: October 21, 2004

By:   
Andrew N. Merickel  
Registration No. 53,317  
Attorney of Record  
Customer No. 20,995

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**PATENT**

Case Docket No. SEPP17.001AUS

Date: October 21, 2004

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RARE EARTH OXIDE THIN  
FILMS  
Group Art Unit : 2812  
Class/Sub-Class : 438/785000  
Examiner : Alexander G. Ghyka

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 21, 2004

(Date)

Andrew N. Merickel, Reg. No. 53,317

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

**MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing is the Issue Fee for the above-identified application:

- (X) Form PTOL-85.
- (X) A check in the amount of \$1,700 to cover the issue fee, publication fee, and advanced order of copies is enclosed.
- (X) Amendment under 37 CFR § 1.312 in 7 pages.
- (X) Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance in 2 pages.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.

**PATENT**

Case Docket No. SEPP17.001AUS  
Date: October 21, 2004

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(X) Return prepaid postcard.



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